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SOVIET UNION MILITARY-ECONOMIC REPORT

Translated from the German

Dated: 17 March 1943

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P R E F A C E

During the Second World War the German Signal Intelligence Control Center of the Staff of the Chief of Army Signal Service (HNS, LNA) issued a series of reports to show the USSR military-economic situation as reflected in Russian internal plain language traffic. These reports appeared at short, irregular intervals, usually six per month, for the period October 1942-March 1943. FOIA b3a- three FOIA b3a reports have been translated and issued by [REDACTED]

It is planned to issue a complete set of translations of the reports beginning with the most recent FOIA b3a working backward, but omitting those already translated by [REDACTED]. The numbering of the items was added by the translator since the Germans did this only in the last eighteen reports, [REDACTED] inclusive. Since the original material was in Russian, an effort has been made when translating the German to determine the original Russian term wherever possible. This is facilitated by the Russian fondness for abbreviations. In these translations into English the probable meaning of the abbreviation will be given in parenthesis the first time it occurs in each report.

TOP SECRET
Security Information

17 March 1943

The Soviet Union

Military-Economic Report

(Based on domestic radio traffic)

More Important Reports

(1) Flights of the Civil Air Fleet from Novosibirsk to Sverdlovsk involve an intermediate stop in Omsk.

(2) A message reveals that in the reconstruction work of the NKRF in Stalingrad the use of war prisoners is intended.

(3) The increased use of women is noted. Thus, in the ice breaking work in the Astrakhan region, in two places, one with 49 workers, 9 women are employed, and in another with 24 workers, all are women.

(4) In all sovkhoses in the Stavropol Oblast' the following stock in workers, machines, cattle and seeds was on hand on 5 February:

Tractor and combine operators	836
Tractor and combine operators in training	300
Able-bodied workers	1300
Tractors	944
including caterpillar tractor	1
" those repaired	424
Combines	680
including - without motor	308
Work horses	2172
Oxen	3270
Horned cattle	10056
Sheep	19300
Swine	6347
Winter grain	4293 tons
Millet	282 "
Sunflowers	544 "
including threshed	71 "
Summer grains	3083 "

Total area sown on all sovkhoses of this oblast' 34840 hectares

(5) The following figures, which were reported from Stavropol for three sovkhoses serve as examples of the losses suffered by Soviet agriculture in the Caucasus through the German occupation or also through evacuation of the area.

TOP SECRET
Security Information

For example, there were:

	before the German occupation	after the German occupation
on the Sovkhoz "Bolshevik"		
sheep	26625	12037
cattle	936	243
horses	366	95
tractors	65	29
combines	19	19
on the sheep-breeding farm "Sovruno"		
sheep	39946	14782
cattle	986	274
horses	424	105
swine	223	21
tractors	61	3
combines	...	20
on the sheep-breeding farm in Ipatovsk:		
sheep	...	9261
cattle	935	53
horses	274	132
swine	85	17
tractors	46	17
combines	...	17

Personnel Situation

(6) The NKRF-offices in Ufa and Molotov must place 4 pilots of the Balaya Steamship Agency at the disposal of the ships of the "Volgatanker".

(7) The Ili Steamship Agency received from the technical school in Chardzhou for training purposes:

ship mechanics	37
pilots	83

(8) In addition the NKRF plant in Chardzhou must receive 36 ship mechanics.

(9) NKRF-Novosibirsk must make good training mechanics available to the NKRF-school, which trains firemen.

(10) In the first quarter the following must be trained:

	drivers	appropriations
NKRF Novosibirsk	5	1500 rbl.
NKRF Semipalatinsk	4	1200 "
NKRF Omsk	10	3000 "
NKRF Irkutsk	4	900 "

(11) The following staff personnel must be trained in the second quarter:

TOP SECRET
Security Information

	At NKRF <u>Novosibirsk</u>	At NKRF <u>Irkutsk</u>
Beginners course for personnel of the shore directorate	230	40 men
Beginners course for management personnel	150	20 "
Finishing course in Stakhanov schools	35	20 "
Training of specialists for ship repair	240	65 "
Total:	<u>705</u>	<u>145</u>

Agriculture

Tiflis.

(12) The seeding plan of the Georgian NK for Textile Industry includes 463 hectares in the spring:

for grain and beans	229 ha.
vegetables	35 "
potatoes	60 "
common turnips	12 "
sunflowers	70 "
miscellaneous	7 "

(13) The Canning Industry will seed the following area:

turnips	133 ha.
onions	254 "
cucumbers	556 "
late cabbage	540 "

(14) The Canning Trust has the following stock in vegetable seeds:

turnips	4.6 tons
onions	7.5 "
cucumbers	4.8 "
cabbage	1.2 "

This stock exceeds requirements many times.

(15) Krasnodar reports as the stock in 2 grain sheds:

barley	235 tons
castor beans	34 "
lucerne	40 "

(16) The stud farm in Stavropol requires 40 stallions.

TOP SECRET
Security Information

Chemical Supply

Tiflis.

(16) The Georgian Chief Directorate for Roads requests 2 tons of soap for the work battalions to control epidemic diseases.

(17) Georgian Industrial Supply was granted 100 tons of sodium sulphate.

(18) It was reported to the NK for Agriculture, Chief of the Chief Directorate for Agrotechnics and Mechanization: The Georgian Agricultural Institute produced 45,000 half-portions of nitragin (?).

(19) The Movie Industry received 1026 meters of film instead of 14,739 meters.

Erivan.

(20) Plant "Sovpren" has not been able to produce any karbinol for months because of the lack of acetone.

(21) 1754 tons of soap arrived for the Armenian rural areas.

(22) From "Sovpren" the oil plants in Baku received 180 tons of caustic soda and the oil plants in Groznyj 100 tons of caustic soda.

(23) "Sovpren" shipped 8.636 tons of carbide to Omsk.

(24) 101 tons of pumice stone were delivered to a factory in Saratov by Krasnovodsk.

(25) The chemical factory in Kirovakan shipped 2 cars of carbide to Gorkij to River Fleet Supply.

(26) Artillery Supply in Chelyabinsk requests from the chemical plant the shipment of 30 tons of carbide for Armament plants.

(27) Batum received from Moscow:	21 tons of chloroform
and Baku :	29 " " "

Material Supply

(28) Plant "Generator" in Tiflis requests from the NK for the Aviation Industry in Moscow for the second quarter:

oil pipe	4676 meters
gasoline pipe	865 "

TOP SECRET
Security Information

(29) The paper combine "Ingur" has to deliver 4 tons of paper to the Military publishing house.

(30) Stavropol requests from Grain Procurement South for putting the power stations into operation:

transport belts	
500 mm.	120 m.
300 "	120 "

Oil Supply

Tiflis.

(31) 6 tons of oil were granted to the Georgian Silk Trust for March.

(32) Plant "Generator" requests:

auto gasoline	6 tons
avtol	0.6 ton
petroleum	1 "

Erivan.

(33) The NK for Agriculture in Armenia requests for March an additional

300 tons of ligroin
100 " " gasoline

(34) The chairman of the Council of the NK of Armenia requests for March an additional 1,000 tons of petroleum.

(35) The Oil Supply Office was granted for the first quarter:

avtol "10"	0.5 ton
solidol	0.1 "

(36) The Armenian copper works in Alaverdy requires for March:

mazut	15 tons
gasoline	3 "

(37) The following has been granted to Stavropol for March:

gasoline	225 tons
petroleum	796 "
oil	580 "
mazut	583 "

(38) In the area of the Volga Steamship Agency the following amounts were distributed in March:

to dock Saratov	petroleum	1 ton
" " Ulyanovsk	"	1 "
" " Volsk	"	1 "
" plant "Kujbyshev"	"	1 "
" " Kriushi	"	1 "
Sovkhoz Vodnik	"	3 tons
		0.1 ton

TOP SECRET
Security Information

(39) The following amounts were distributed in March to the NKRF offices in the following oblasti:

	Kujbyshev	Saratov	Molotov	Tartar ASSR	Udmurt ASSR	Bashkir ASSR
Mazut	800	300	2,000	20		10 tons
Motor oil	80	20	80	1500	500	1.5 ton
Petroleum	500	500	1,000	300	200	0.1 "
Gasoline	200	200	1,000	200		0.2 "
Ligroin	700	300	800			25 tons
Diesel oil						

(40) In addition there was received in March by:

NKRF Volsk	Mazut	200 tons
NKRF Batraki	"	700 "

Coal Supply

(41) 16 tons of coke were sent on 12 March from Kemerovo to the NKRF office in Gorodets.

(42) 500 tons of Kuznetsk coal were distributed to the station Molitovka in Gorkij Oblast'.

(43) 600 tons of Kuznetsk coal and 300 tons of Kitselovsk coal were distributed to the NKRF offices in Levshino in Molotov Oblast'.

Production

(44) NKRF Stalingrad will order 40 wood pontoons in case certain tests proceed favorably. It probably concerns some equipment for the floating workshops.

(45) Plant "Third International" in Astrakhan gives the following statement on the status of its production of 10 March:

(Numerator: planned; Denominator: actual production)

wheel frames	7/7
pistons	4/3
cylinders	4/4
overhauling cylinders	5/5
chimney pipes	1331/1331
misc. wheels	18/10

(46) NKRF Gurev reports on 10 March the repair of the following ships of "Volgatanker":

TOP SECRET
Security Information

Chicherin	Kiev
Turgenev	Zamorodok
Klim	Udurnik
Voroshilov	Cheremikhin
Korevo	Yaroslavl
Biryehya	Lisa
Koza	

(47) In NKRF Aralsk on 1 March the large ship repair back-log consisted of:

ships	8.4%
in this figure dock backlog	12.3%
barges	17 %
in this figure dock backlog	25.4%

Moscow indicates that this backlog is the result only of poor organization.

(48) There will be constructed or there must be constructed:

in Semipalatinsk	1 metal barge of	500 tons	by May
	1 suction dredge of	500 "	" June
in Tobolsk	1 barge of	500 "	" 1 June
in Ar del-Chulpan	14 flatboats of	100 "	" 1 July
in Atarsk	21 " of	100 "	" 1 July
in Peranovo (village?)	5 " of	50 "	" 1 July
in Igarka	1 barge of	500 "	
in Yaroslavl	1 tug of	400 hp.	" July
in Ulan-Ude	3 gas motor ships		

Miscellaneous

(49) On 8 March marks of socialistic competition are to be bestowed on the members of Plant "Staryj-Burlak" and Dock Molotov.